

VZCZCXRO2659
PP RUEHDE RUEHDH RUEHDIR
DE RUEHKU #0345 0981436
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 081436Z APR 09
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3157
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 000345

SIPDIS

NEA/ARP, NEA/I

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/14/2018
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PARM](#) [KNNP](#) [KN](#) [KU](#)
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: KUWAIT SHARES USG CONCERNS
ABOUT NORTH KOREAN MISSILE LAUNCH

REF: STATE 33031

Classified By: Political Counselor Pete O'Donohue for reasons 1.4 b and
d

¶1. (C) POLCOUNS on April 9 raised reftel points concerning North Korea's April 5 launch of a Taepo-Dong missile over Japan with Meshal Al-Dabbous of MFA's Asia Department and also provided him with a copy of the President's April 5 statement condemning the launch. Dabbous responded that the GOK fully shares USG concerns over the launch, which violates UNSCR 1718, and hopes that North Korea can be persuaded via the medium of the Six-Party Talks to abandon its efforts to further develop its missile program.

¶2. (C) Dabbous noted that the North Korean launch makes the GOK particularly uncomfortable, given the GOK's belief that North Korea exchanges missile technology and expertise with Iran, Kuwait's troublesome neighbor on the other side of the Arabian Gulf. Iran's missile and nuclear ambitions create a great deal of worry here and the GOK views the North Korean launch as one more indication that dangerous technologies are becoming a growing threat to this region.

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